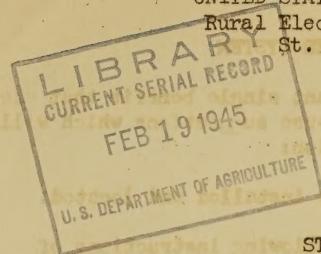


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Electrification Administration
St. Louis 2, Missouri



August 5, 1944

NEWSLETTER TOPICS

STOP, LOOK AND LISTEN

A dangerous character is among you. Some of you may not even know of his presence. His depredations, over many months, may cost you a sizable sum. His activities are always a threat to your welfare. Although he robs you of money and farm produce urgently needed for the war, he often doesn't fully realize the evil of his ways.

This character is armed, usually with a small caliber rifle. If he's a boy, he may come from your neighbor's place, from a home in town -- or even from your own household. Like others who commit offenses against society, he's a product of poor or insufficient training. To reform him is the responsibility of us all.

The offense we refer to is the breaking of insulators along our power lines. A shot from this fellow's gun has too frequently caused interruptions in your power service. Losses to all consumers, figuring systems repair costs, inconvenience and lower efficiency in farm and household operations, might actually be measured by thousands of dollars.

Outages caused by broken insulators have robbed you of many hours of service. The revenue lost to us, represented by kilowatt-hours not used, is revenue you'll have to make up for in the end. You'll pay for the service though you didn't receive it, because system expenses go on just the same even though your meter isn't registering.

It's up to you to help your management staff eliminate this evil. The power lines belong to you and your neighbors. Keep this portion of your property intact. Report all cases of vandalism and line damage as promptly as you can.

LEAFLET ON FROZEN MEATS, POULTRY

Folks who have a frozen-food locker or home freezer will find helpful information in a pamphlet prepared by the Bureau of Animal Industry and the Agricultural Research Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture. Copies are available in our office.

The leaflet emphasizes the advantages of preserving meats and poultry by freezing but points out that improper processing and storing can cause loss of quality and food value. Illustrations are provided to show the best way of cutting and preparing beef, veal, pork, lamb, poultry and fish. In addition, the leaflet tells how you can successfully freeze and preserve liquid eggs, either in whole form or with yolks and whites separated.

(Note to newsletter editors: Before you use this item, please order from the Information Division, REA, the number of copies of the pamphlet you think you will need. We will mail them promptly.)

SOME FACTS ABOUT FOOD

War requirements will take more than half of this country's commercially canned fruits and vegetables during the year which began July 1, 1944, according to recent government reports. The civilian's share of the vegetable pack, especially tomatoes and tomato juice, snap beans, peas, beets and asparagus, will be cut sharply. Canned fruits and juices will be available in about the same quantities as last year's scanty supply.

This is why so much emphasis has been placed this year on Victory gardening and home food preservation. And there is where electricity fits in, with its aid in the form of easier garden watering, food canning, dehydration and refrigerated storage.

(Note to Editors: If climate in your area is suitable, you may wish to add a recommendation that late summer or fall gardens be planted).

TIPS ON THE CARE OF YOUR WATER SYSTEM

Running water is often regarded as the most important single benefit that electricity can bring to the farm. Here are some care-and-use suggestions which will help keep repair bills down and assure efficient operation:

1. Make sure that pump and pipes are properly installed and located.
2. See that system is properly lubricated, following instructions of manufacturer. If units are installed outdoors or in unheated structure, replace heavier summertime lubricants with lighter oils and greases for winter operation.
3. Guard against freezing. Consult us or your service man for further suggestions if you need advice in this respect.
4. Keep the motor in proper operating condition, with belt at correct tension. (Switch off electricity before tinkering with motor or pump).
5. If — pump starts and stops frequently, pressure tank may contain too little air. Service man should examine air "bleeder."

— air comes from faucets, pressure tank may contain too much air. Pump may not be functioning properly, "bleeder" valve on tank may be out of order, or, on a deep-well system, a sucker rod may be broken.

— no water comes from faucet, power may be off, fuse may be blown, motor's belt may have slipped off, or pump may not be drawing water because level is too low.

— leakage from stuffing box exceeds the proper rate of only a few drops a minute, tighten stuffing box nut until no leakage occurs and then loosen the nut a quarter-turn,

SOME GOOD EXAMPLES OF NEWSLETTER ITEMS

We wish to impress on our members the importance of being certain their breakers or fuses are working before calling this office to tell us about an outage. We recently made a 24-mile trip, with time-and-one-half for the men, only to find the house breakers "out." This trip cost your office \$4.46 -- a charge which could easily have been avoided. (From newsletter of Sumner-Cowley Electric Cooperative Association, Wellington, Kansas).

THANK YOU ---- Ed Cook of North Okaw Township for reporting a hazardous condition on the hi-line. While driving along the main feeder line in his truck one day recently, Ed noticed one of the insulators didn't look just right, so he phoned the co-op office. Our lineman found that the insulator was still tied to the high voltage wire but had come unscrewed from the steel pin. Earl Horn and Ezra Selby phoned us to report a pole had been struck by lightning on their line. We made temporary repairs that made the splintered pole safe for the night and put in a new pole the next day.

We don't believe it possible to say too much in praise of what these men did. It is through such thoughtful acts of our members that our co-op is a real, live personal co-op instead of "just another company." (From newsletter of Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative, Mattoon, Ill.)

We have just been advised that Otto White, who operates a dairy farm east of Boonville, has installed a new electric milker with which he is now milking 19 cows. He does the job with much less labor and difficulty than before. A number of our members have been installing milking machines and other labor saving devices to assist them with their farm chores during this period of critical shortage of farm labor. (From newsletter of Co-Mo Electric Cooperative, Tipton, Mo.)
